

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /031 R

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APPROVED BY CTFCCJOHNSON
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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 181157

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CY

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 10: SITUATION IN CYPRUS AS
OF 1500 EDT, AUGUST 18

1. MILITARY SITUATION ON CYPRUS: THE CEASEFIRE REMAINED
SHAKY AND ULTIMATE TURKISH MILITARY GOALS UNCLEAR. FIGHTING
WAS REPORTED SOUTH AND WEST OF NICOSIA, BUT THE U.N. RE-
MAINS IN CONTROL OF THE AIRPORT. TURKISH UNITS WERE REPORTED
TO BE ADVANCING NORTH OF LARNACA TOWARD THE NICOSIA-LIMASSOL
ROAD. NONE WERE REPORTED TO HAVE CROSSED THE ROAD AND
THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN NICOSIA EXPLICITLY DENIED ANY INTENT

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TO CUT THE ROAD. THE WESTERN END OF THE ATILA LINE WAS

REPORTED TO BE QUIET.

2. CYPRUS: REUTERS REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT CLERIDES STATED PUBLICLY THAT THE TURKISH ARMY IS ATTEMPTING TO OCCUPY THE ENTIRE ISLAND. HE SAID MILITARY ACTION MAKES FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS IMPOSSIBLE. CLERIDES REPORTEDLY TOLD UN REPRESENTATIVE WECKMANN THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS DO NOT DESIRE NEGOTIATIONS AT PRESENT. THE CITY OF NICOSIA IS REPORTED TO BE FACING A SEVERE WATER SHORTAGE. THE TURKISH ARMY CONTROLS THE WATER SUPPLY.

3. GREECE: ON RHODES THE COMMANDER OF A US COAST GUARD FACILITY REPORTS A HIGH LEVEL OF ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT. ONE AMERICAN CAR HAS BEEN FIREBOMBED. IN ATHENS, DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF TOLD THE AMERICAN THAT MOVEMENT OF SOME TROOPS FROM ATHENS ON AUGUST 11 HAD SUCCESSFULLY FORESTALLED THE THREAT OF A MILITARY COUP. HE CLAIMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW BEYOND DANGER. AVEROFF ALSO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT A GREEK DIVISION STATIONED ON RHODES AND CRETE IS FULLY PREPARED TO MOVE TO CYPRUS. HOWEVER, SINCE THE BRITISH HAD COUNSELED AGAINST THIS MOVE AND REFUSED TO SUPPLY AIR COVER, THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE NO DECISION ON MOVING THE TROOPS. THE DEFENSE MINISTER ADDED THAT HE DOES NOT THINK THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WILL RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE AND THAT THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM NATO IS FIRM. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE US MAY BE RESPECTED.

4. TURKEY: AFTER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR MACOMBER, PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE TWO HAD CONFERRED ON THE LATEST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND ON THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS BEGINNING AGAIN. HE DENIED REPORTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD BROUGHT HIM A MESSAGE. THE PRIME MINISTER SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED THE TURKISH CHIEF OF STAFF. FOLLOWING THE MEETING ECEVIT TOLD THE PRESS THAT TURKISH TROOPS WERE OBSERVING THE CEASEFIRE. HE IS SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, ANTIAMERICAN, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, MILITARY PLANS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE181157
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740227-0520
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740838/aaaabgk.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <28 JUN 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION REPORT NO. 10: SITUATION IN CYPRUS AS OF 1500 EDT, AUGUST 18
TAGS: MOPS, PINT, CY, TU, GR, (CLERIDES, GLAFCOS)
To: ANKARA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005